

Festival of Literacies

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2004

Welcome to the Festival of Literacies at the Ontario Institute for studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE/UT). There are many kinds of important literacies used in today's world. We are trying to make the festival a meeting ground for diverse literacy communities.

This newsletter gives a quick glimpse of some of our current and upcoming events.



Festival of Literacies
Festival de l'Alpha

www.literaciesOISE.ca

We learn through kindness. – Nancy Cooper

The first thing to research capacity is opening people's minds up. That includes working at what it means to do research, and looking at what research can be. – Tracey Mollins

Festival of Literacies Courses

For the Winter Term: January to April 2005

AEC1131H-SV-6331 An Introduction to Research in Practice in Adult Literacy
Instructor: Dr. Mary Norton. ON-line using OISE/UT's WebKF website.

Research-in-practice is literacy research conducted by or with people directly engaged in adult literacy teaching and learning. It is a powerful way for practitioners to reflect on their practice, develop their practice and contribute to the direction of the field. As a participant in this introductory course, you will learn about research in practice as you extend your knowledge about selected topics in adult literacy. As well as learning about research in practice initiatives in Canada and elsewhere, you will critically read and discuss research articles, relate research findings to your practice, and prepare to do a research in practice project. The course will introduce activities and various approaches to identify a research focus, clarify your perspectives, situate your research topic in local and larger contexts, involve participants, collect and analyse information, and write up and share what you learn. While addressed to adult literacy educators, the course may be of interest to others who want to use research to improve practice. Since the purpose of the course is to relate research and practice, it is important that participants are currently working or have recently worked in an adult literacy, adult education or related setting.



Fall Event

Impact of Policy on Practice: A report back on the Montreal Summer Institute

Tuesday, September 28th, 2 to 4 pm.

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, 7th Floor South Peace Lounge.



Wellness and Literacy

This project focuses on wellness and its connection to literacy and learning. Literacy workers, community health practitioners, professors and graduate students have come together for lively discussions on the many ways that literacy, learning, and wellness are related to each other. We will pose our questions and lead a discussion at the Literacy and Health Conference in Ottawa in October.



What Makes the Learner-Practitioner Relationship Work?

A group of practitioners in eastern Ontario formed a research-in-practice circle to investigate the learner-practitioner relationship and the “intangibles” in that relationship, which support learner progress. The idea began in a Resource Sharing meeting held by the Literacy Ontario Central South (LOCS). Practitioners from the various programs LOCS had brought together wanted to further investigate the learner-practitioner relationship. This past year they have discussed and written about this question. Keep an eye out for their report soon to be released.



*Before something was ever written
in a book, it came from a person.*

– Joan Conolly

(from her recent talk, Reading Story –
Orality, Literacy and Holistic
Knowledges)



Festival of Literacies / Festival de l'Alpha

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